

ITALY, HAVING REGAINED HER OWN, IS READY TO JOIN A LEAGUE OF NATIONS, KING VICTOR EMMANUEL TOLD WILSON

In Reply to Address, President Wilson Spoke of the Close Bonds Linking the Peoples of the United States and Italy Together, and He Said That the Former Had Not Done Half What It Desired to Do.

PRESIDENT IS ENTERTAINED AT AN OFFICIAL DINNER

TREMENDOUS OVATION GIVEN BY PEOPLE

Mayor of Rome Welcomed the President to the City and Told of the Gratitude of Italy to America.

Rome, Jan. 4.—President Wilson was the guest of honor at an official dinner given at the Quirinal last night. There were only two addresses. By King Victor Emmanuel and by Mr. Wilson. The king said:

"You, yourself, Mr. president, are become our welcome and pleasing guest only to-day, but in the conscience of our people your personality already for a long time has inscribed itself in an ineffable way.

"The enthusiastic reception which have accompanied your passage through the streets of Rome to-day are attestations of the sentiments of admiration and recognition that your own name and labor and the name and labor of the United States stir in the Italian people.

"The best traditions of Italian culture, the liveliest currents of our national thought, have constantly aimed at the same ideal goal, toward the establishment of the international peace for which you have with tenacious faith toiled. Already before the vicissitudes of war and the fraternity of armies had established to-day's admirable communion of intentions and purpose between our two countries, legions of our workers had emigrated to your great republic. They had knitted America and Italy together with strong cords of relationship, and these became reinforced by the spiritual affinity between both peoples who had a common faith in the virtue of free political government.

"When Italy entered into the war, a breath, a precursor of the American spirit, penetrated into the rank and file of our army through the means of our workers who returned to the fatherland from America and brought into Italy an echo of their second patria. So, correspondingly the Italian soul vibrated in the hearts of our emigrants enrolled under your banners when the American nation under your guidance threw itself into the fight against the common enemy.

"Italy, having now gathered to her own bones those brothers so long sorrowing under foreign oppression, and having reconquered the confidence which alone can give her security and true independence, is preparing herself to cooperate with you in the most cordial manner to reach the most practical means for drawing into a single circle the civilized nations, for the purpose of creating in the supreme form of a league of nations the conditions most fitted to safeguard and protect each one's rights. Italy and America entered together into the war through a rare act of will; they were moved by the same noble motives, they entered into the fight against the domination of the cult of force in the world; they were moved by the purpose to reaffirm in the circle of human value the concepts of liberty and justice. They entered into war to conquer the powers of war. Their accomplishment is still unfinished, and the common work must still be developed with firm faith and with lenacious constancy for the purpose of effecting the security of peace.

"I lift up my glass, Mr. President, in your honor and in the honor of Mrs. Wilson, whose gentle presence adds charm to your visit; I drink to the prosperity and to the continued and increasing prestige of the great American nation.

Pres. Wilson's Reply.

In reply, President Wilson said:

"Your majesty: I have been very much touched by the generous terms of the address you have just read. I feel it would be difficult for me to make a worthy reply, and yet if I could speak simply the things that are in my heart I am sure they could constitute an adequate reply.

"I had occasion at the Parliament this afternoon to speak of the strong sympathy that had sprung up between the United States and Italy during the terrible years of the war, but perhaps here I can speak more intimately and say how sincerely the people of the United States had admired your own course and your constant association with the armies of Italy and the gracious and generous association of her majesty, the queen.

"It has been a matter of pride with us that so many men of Italian origin were in our own armies and associated with their brethren in Italy itself in the greatest enterprise of freedom. These are no small matters, and they complete that process of the welding together of the sympathies of nations which has been going on so long between our peoples.

"The Italians in the United States

WILSON VISITS POPE IN THE VATICAN

Rome, Jan. 4.—President Wilson to-day was received at the Vatican by Pope Benedict.

The president's arrival was announced by the master of the chamber to the pope, who awaited the president in the throne room, where two gilded armchairs had been placed. The president was admitted immediately to the presence of the pope, who was gowned in white.

On his way to the throne room the president was accompanied by a procession of Vatican servants. The procession made its way through hall filled with antique pictures and precious tapestries.

As the president entered the ante-chamber to the papal apartments he was preceded by the Pontifical Chamberlains. Generalissimo in immense busby and the papal guard and the noble guard in their red tunics were drawn up to greet him.

have excited a particular degree of admiration. They, I believe, are the only people of a given nationality who have been careful to organize themselves to see that their compatriots coming to America were from month to month and year to year guided to places in industries most suitable to their previous habits. No other nationality has taken such pains as that, and in serving their fellow countrymen they have served the United States, because these people have found places where they would be most useful and would most immediately earn their own living and add to the prosperity of the country itself.

"In every way we have been happy in our association at home and abroad with the people of this great state. I was saying playfully to Premier Orlando and Baron Sonnino this afternoon that, in trying to put the people of the world under their proper sovereignty, we would not be willing to part with the Italians in the United States, because we too find value in the contribution that they have made, not only to the industry of the United States, but to its thought and to many elements of its life.

"This is, therefore, a very welcome occasion upon which to express a feeling that goes very deep. I was touched the other day to have an Italian, a very plain man, say to me that we had helped to feed Italy during the war, and it went to my heart, because we had been able to do so little. It was necessary for us to use our tonnage so exclusively for the handling of troops and of the supplies that had to follow them from the United States, that we could not do half as much as it was our desire to do, to supply grain to this country, or coal, or any of the supplies which it so much needed during the progress of the war.

"And knowing as we did in this indirect way, the needs of the country, you will not wonder that we were moved by its steadfastness. My heart goes out to the little poor families all over this great kingdom who stood the brunt and the strain of the war and gave their men gladly to make other men free and other women and other children free. These are the people and many like them to whom, after all, we owe the glory of this great achievement, and I want to join with you, for I am sure of joining with you, in expressing my profound sympathy not only to my very profound admiration as well.

"It is my privilege and honor to propose the health of His Majesty, the King, and Her Majesty, the Queen, and long prosperity to Italy."

"VIVA AMERICA"

ECHOED IN ROME

Crowds Gave Vent to Their Enthusiasm Over Wilson By Tremendous Din—King Victor Hoped Wilson Would Feel at Home.

Rome, Friday, Jan. 3. (By the Associated Press).—Rome was astir early to-day. Seemingly, the entire population streamed toward the station, where President Wilson was to be welcomed by King Victor Emmanuel. Hours before the arrival of the presidential train, crowds packed the Via Nazionale, which was lined with double rows of soldiers. At 10 o'clock the expectation of the throngs was intense. Flags were everywhere fluttering in the breeze, every window and balcony was filled with eager watchers and the roofs were black with people. Even in trees and high on lamp posts were men and women clinging to vantage points.

At 10:30 there came the first distant shouts of "Viva America," which was taken up by the crowd. An engine whistle was heard in the distance and loud shouts broke forth, rising into a deafening roar as the presidential train rolled into the station.

Inside the station were the king and queen and all the members of the cabinet, headed by Premier Orlando and Foreign Minister Sonnino; members of the diplomatic corps, presidents of the

COMBAT DIVISIONS ORDERED TO RETURN

The 30th, 37th and 91st Are Designated By General Pershing for Early Voyage to the United States.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—Three combat divisions, the 30th, 37th and 91st, have been designated by General Pershing for early return home from France, General March announced to-day.

These three entire divisions and the second corps headquarters which operated with the British army in Flanders under Major General George W. Reed, have been added to the priority list and will be returned home as shipping becomes available.

Units abroad assigned to early convey, in addition to those already embarked, now total 292,000. Troops in the United States and abroad designated for demobilization, General March said, total 1,370,000.

Demobilization of the army at home has now reached the last class, the combat divisions. Orders for the breaking up of these units already have been sent out, and the task will proceed gradually, under week to week designations of the number to be let out.

The progress of demobilization is being maintained, official reports show, an incomplete total giving 630,360 men and 40,491 officers discharged up to Jan. 3.

The army reorganization bill to be presented to Congress early next week will contain provisions giving authority to the war department to incorporate in the new regular forces those temporary officers who made good in the war, General March said. There are no vacancies in the ranks of the old regular army, it was said, every commissioned grade being filled.

Officers who have indicated their desire to maintain their connection with the permanent forces are being held in camp and not discharged as their turn is reached.

General Pershing has been instructed to use in the army of occupation officers in similar status abroad.

In reply to an inquiry regarding persistent reports that batteries B and D, 180th field artillery, 42 division, had been practically wiped out in action, General March said Major General Charles T. Menoher, former commander of the 42d, who now is in Washington, had stated specifically that such reports were unfounded. These units, he said, had not suffered any unusually heavy losses.

General March requested that attention be called to the fact that the war risk insurance bureau is an adjunct of the treasury department and does not come under the war department. He said his personal mail was flooded with inquiries regarding insurance.

JUDGE REFUSED TO ISSUE WARRANT

And Boxer Frank Pacheco, Who Was Fighting with Francis Di Leo When Later Was Fatally Stricken, Was Immediately Released.

Boston, Jan. 4.—Judge Albert F. Hayden of the Roxbury district court refused to-day to issue a warrant charging manslaughter against Frank Pacheco of New Bedford, a boxer known in sporting circles as "Young Frankie Britt," who was engaged in a bout with "Terry McGovern" of Philadelphia Monday night when the latter was fatally injured.

Britt, who has been held in \$2,000 bonds by the police, was immediately released.

Judge Hayden said no evidence of brutality had been presented. McGovern's death, he said, had been ascribed by the medical examiner to a hemorrhage in the head resulting from the bursting of a small blood vessel, which caused a small leakage, but that this might have occurred on some previous occasion.

McGovern, known in private life as Francis Di Leo, was knocked out in the sixth round of the bout and struck his head heavily on the floor. He died on Tuesday at a local hospital.

PEACE CONFERENCE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

First, a Conference of the Four Great Powers; Second, Introduction of Belgium and Serbia; Third, Admission of Other Allies; Fourth, Presentation of Conditions to Germany and Her Allies.

Paris, Jan. 4. (Havas).—The peace conference, according to the Petit Parisien, will proceed as follows:

First, a conference of the four great powers.

Second, representatives of Belgium and Serbia to be admitted for a study of the general situation.

Third, admission of the other allies for conferences on the problems interesting them.

Fourth, presentation of conditions successively to Germany, Bulgaria, Turkey, Germany, Austria, and Hungary and the signing of the peace preliminaries.

Fifth, a general conference concerning the questions of a league of nations, freedom of the seas, limitation of armaments and related topics.

BURGLARY AT MONTPELIER.

Store of H. O. Kent Robbed—William Wentworth Arrested as Suspect.

William Wentworth was arrested in Montpelier this morning by Chief Constable of the Montpelier police on suspicion in connection with a break in the store of H. O. Kent in that city last night.

The robbery was discovered by the night police as they were making their rounds, the back door being open. About \$8 was taken from the till. The police looked about last night and at 10 o'clock this forenoon arrested Wentworth.

FOUND 160 SUBS. BEING BUILT

All of Which Will Have to Be Turned Over to the Allies

ALLIED COMMISSION VISITED GERMANY

Germany's Newest Battleship, the Baden, Will Be Surrendered Soon

London, Jan. 4.—Germany's newest battleship, the Baden, will be surrendered at a British port within a few days in accordance with the terms of the armistice, according to announcement here.

The Baden has a displacement of 28,000 tons. One hundred and seventy submarines, all under construction, were found when the inter-allied naval commission visited Germany to make arrangements for the carrying out of the terms of the armistice, the newspapers say. The U-boats, it is said, will be turned over to the allies.

28 MEN ADMITTED TO U. S. CITIZENSHIP

Majority of Those Taken in at Montpelier Yesterday Are Residents of Barre or Barre Town.

Twenty-eight persons, a majority of whom were from Barre and Barre Town, were admitted to citizenship at a session of the United States district court at Montpelier yesterday. Five applied for second papers and two were granted first papers.

Those admitted to citizenship were as follows:

Renato Ceresoli, Barre; Andrew D. Falco, Barre; Archibald Neal, Barre Town; Biagio Pucelli, Barre; Antonio X. Rousseau, Bethel; William A. Y. Hurry, Barre; James C. Robertson, Barre; James McDonald, Barre; Thomas Ingram, Barre; Carlo F. Vittori, Barre; Angelo Pedretti, Barre; Emilio Cacciamali, Barre; Eugenio Pichetti, Barre; Serafino Moruzzi, Barre; George M. Knowles, Middlesex; Adrian J. Granger, Bethel; Herbert Fox, East Montpelier; Robert Middleton, Bethel; Raffaele Guarino, Hartford; Alexander W. Corns, Barre; Alexander L. McHaffie, Barre; Andrew W. Heikilla, Barre; Adolphe Fortier, Barre; Martino Vertolini, Barre Town; Zephire Brunelle, Chelsea (Claremont, N. H.); Henry Goodell, Randolph; William Twomey, Royalton; Joseph Rodman, South Royalton.

Those who applied for second papers were Herman S. Collins, a native of Germany, living in Middlesex; Hyman Carr and Joseph Carr of Montpelier, natives of Russia, and Adam Letanien of Worcester, native of Quebec.

The granted first papers were Angelo C. Lianiti, Middlesex, native of Italy; Joseph W. Zwicker of Corinth, native of Nova Scotia.

The following were dismissed: Angelo Bonazzi, Barre; Carlo Orlando, Barre; Donato Fabrizio, Barre; Giuseppe Delgoso, Newton, Mass.; William B. Cunningham, Buffalo, N. Y.; Alfredo Sautier, Montpelier; Anton Zuanich, Montpelier. Three have died, Joseph A. Desiletta, East Barre; Emilio Bernasconi, Barre; Sidney Kidd, Barre.

Two Brookfield cases were continued in order to give the men a chance to buy some life bonds in the next issue. Several were continued for study. One was continued because his wife is a native of Germany.

WILSON ASKS CONGRESS FOR RELIEF MONEY

Sends Message Through State Department That Food Is Needed in Western Russia, Poland and Austria-Hungary.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—Congress was asked by President Wilson to-day in a message transmitted through the state department to appropriate \$100,000,000 for relief of famine sufferers in Europe.

It is understood that the money is wanted chiefly to send food into sections of western Russia, Poland and Austria-Hungary.

RATES WOULD STAND

Even Though Railroads Went Back to Private Control.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—Existing rate structures would continue if railroads were turned back to private control until changes were made by orderly legal procedure, even where states have specific rate laws, in the opinion of Director General McAdoo, expressed to-day at the resumption of the Senate interstate commerce committee's hearings on the railroad problem.

The interstate commerce commission has power to prevent discrimination in rates, and this power could be invoked, said Mr. McAdoo, to prevent inequalities between intra- and interstate rates. He called attention to the fact that the courts have power to annul rates which would be confiscatory in view of the present high cost of operation.

The director-general also expressed the opinion that railroads operating privately could maintain joint ticket offices without violating anti-trust laws.

WAS CLUBBED TO DEATH.

And Mrs. Harry E. Brown's Assailant Has Not Been Caught.

Rockland, Me., Jan. 4.—Mrs. Harry E. Brown, who was killed on the street here Monday night, died of "blows on the head by a club, loss of blood, and exposure to cold weather on the ground," according to the death certificate filed with the city clerk to-day by the medical examiner. The certificate also stated that the motive for the assault was an immoral one.

The search throughout New England for All Touhinen, whose arrest at night has been ordered in connection with the murder, had no definite result to-day.

HELPLESS MEN RESCUED LAST

The Wounded Heroes Were Taken Off the Northern Pacific To-day

TENDERLY LIFTED TO NAVAL LAUNCHES

Skillful Work Prevented Any Accident—Ship Under Little Strain

Fire Island, N. Y., Jan. 4.—Removal of 200 wounded, the last of the army transport, Northern Pacific's soldier-passenger list aboard the stranded liner, was begun early to-day under clearing skies and in an even sea. Submarine chasers and naval launches, carrying the men to the hospital ship Solace, were expected to complete the operation before noon.

Four naval launches drew alongside the ship, which developed a heavier seaward list during the night.

As the first party of litter cases were lowered over the troops ship's side, the soldiers saw the sun for the first time since their transport ran aground, early in a few hours of their home port, with Wednesday morning. The submarine chaser, her deck brown with prone and aching figures in khaki, shot away from the big vessel's lee in a flood of sun sunlight. Motor boats followed in the chaser's wake, wallowing through the seas toward the hospital ship Solace, which had edged shoreward to within less than a mile of the Northern Pacific. Observers ashore, watching through glasses, saw the helpless soldiers raised aboard the hospital ship through her ports. The Solace was rolling heavily but the navy men worked skillfully and the rescues were effected without accident.

When two big wrecking tugs, after an hour's work, failed to stir the troop ship, imbedded in tangle of sand, naval vessels began taking off baggage in an effort to lighten the vessel.

Captain Meade, coast guard officer in charge of naval operations on shore, said the transport was under little strain, and in no danger. She grounded, he added, at high tide and with a south wind driving the sea high on the beach and similar condition would facilitate salvaging.

Army coast guard and Red Cross workers, still on duty on the beach, kept vigil in a biting northwest wind, with a temperature below freezing while the aftermath of the night's snow storm crowned the sand dunes.

SHOWED APPRECIATION OF EX-SEC. HINMAN

Barre Granite Manufacturers Had Him as a Guest Last Evening and Presented Him a Valuable 21-Jewel Watch.

In recognition of his four years' services as secretary of the Barre Granite Manufacturers' association, Harold P. Hinman was in the hands of some 75 of his associates at the manufacturers' room last night, and before they had finished with him they had cited him for ability, energy and foresight in business and had conferred a beautiful 21-jewel watch upon him, while at the same time they spoke many a good word for the new secretary, Athol R. Bell.

The watch, which, unfortunately, had not arrived from the engraver in time for the occasion, is to be a gift of considerable value and will be suitably engraved with the recipient's name and other inscription. The presentation was made by James T. Marston, who spoke of the splendid work which Mr. Hinman has done for the association during the past four years, the speaker referring to Mr. Hinman's remarkable energy, his keenness of perception and his ability to get results.

That the other members held the same sentiments was evident by the vigorous applause which greeted Mr. Marston's words.

Mr. Hinman thanked the association in a feeling manner and then went on to speak of some of the matters pertaining to the welfare of the association as they appeared to him. As he sat down he was serenaded with "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" from the assembled crowd.

Then the evening was turned into an informal jollification which was not really in the nature of a farewell, because Mr. Hinman is to be connected with the Barre granite industry as sales manager for Boutwell, Milne & Varnum. President Alex. A. Milne of the association presided and called upon various members to respond briefly. Among those who spoke were H. J. M. Jones, George A. Cross, Alex. Milne, William Barclay, G. H. Douglas, Alex. Duncan, Thomas Crockett of Joliet, Ill., John C. Booth and S. Hollister Jackson.

Interpersed in the program were solos by James Bennett and Harry Clark and stringed duets by George Laviolette and Louis Label.

During an interim in the good time a buffet luncheon was served and it, too, proved to be one of the interesting features of a very enjoyable occasion. Throughout the feeling of good fellowship prevailed, and the retiring secretary could not have failed to catch the note of appreciation for his services and good will for him in his future work.

U. S. FORCES LOST 86 DEAD IN ARCHANGEL REGION

Of That Number 9 Were Killed in Action, 7 Died of Wounds, 3 Were Drowned, 2 Died from Accident and 65 Died of Disease.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—An official report received from the American military attaché with Ambassador Francis in Russia, announced to-day by General March, shows total deaths from all causes in the American force in the Archangel region up to Nov. 25, to be 86. Of these nine were killed in action, seven died of wounds, three were drowned and two died as a result of accident, and 65 from disease.

Later official reports, General March said, show that the military situation at Archangel is entirely in hand, and that the troops are adequately fed and clothed for winter campaigning in that region.

PLAN RECEPTION TO MAJ. GEN. EDWARDS

The Function Will Be Held at Howland Hall Thursday Evening, Jan. 16, Followed By Meeting in Opera House in the Evening.

The local committee which has in charge the arrangements for the visit of Major General C. R. Edwards to Barre on Jan. 16 met last evening and formulated plans for the exercises to be held during the distinguished soldier's stay in the city. It is intended to hold a reception in Howland hall at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of that day, the object to be held for the purpose of giving to any men of the 26th division who may happen to be here, as well as other men in service, and also the wives, fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers of those in the service an opportunity to meet Major General Edwards.

In order that the committee may get some idea as to how many will be present at this reception it is requested that those intending to be present will forward their names to the General Edwards Committee, box 308, stating what part of the service they belong to, or, if relatives, the name of the relative in the service and the branch in which they are serving. This invitation is extended to those in the city and town of Barre, Williamstown, Brookfield, Chelsea, Washington, Topham, Orange, East and North Montpelier, Plainfield, Marshfield, Cabot, Calais, Woodbury and Berlin. All parties intending to be present should have their names forwarded to the committee by Thursday, Jan. 9.

General Edwards will speak in the opera house on the evening and seats will be reserved for men of the 26th division and their immediate relatives who express their intention of being present.

OFFICIAL FAMILY GROWS IN MONTPELIER

Various State Officials and Attaches Are Beginning to Arrive in Anticipation of the Opening of the Legislature.

The official family at the State House in Montpelier is gradually commencing to increase as the preparations for the legislature are being completed. Harry B. Black of Newport City, who was elected secretary of state to succeed F. G. Fleetwood, appointed by Governor Graham, has been in Montpelier this week.

There is another appointment in the legislature to be made in the winter. There may be some minor changes in the official family. Miss Vida Spear is to be enrolling clerk.

It is generally conceded now that Harvey Goodell, who has been secretary of civil and military affairs for the last two years and whose appointment was mentioned some weeks since in these columns, will be retained in the same capacity in the coming regime and that Walter Fenton of Rutland will be the executive clerk. As far as has been learned these are to be no other changes in that office, with the possible appointment of an extra stenographer.

The first of the week will see the extra clerks coming to the office they will be engaged in for the session. Reports are contradictory relative to Mrs. H. D. Gibson being in the clerk of the House office. Mrs. Gibson is now employed by F. H. Brooks in the food office in St. Johnsbury.

There is another appointment in that office which has caused considerable speculation. That is the second assistant clerk. Mr. Wilcox makes that appointment and it is understood he has received applications of several candidates for the position. Miss Ellen Duffee will probably be the extra typist in the office. Her long experience makes her a valuable assistant in that work, the office routine.

Guy W. Page of Burlington, Senate secretary, was in the city Friday relative to getting affairs in shape in his office. He was looking more particularly for a stenographer and it is understood that Mrs. Julia Dewey was offered the position. Millard P. Taft will be Mr. Page's assistant secretary in the coming session. He has enjoyed two sessions' experience and fills the place in good shape.

Dame Rumor says that Miss Florence Teschout will be the second telephone operator in the exchange in the State House. It looks now as though an attempt will be made to handle all the legislative work through the exchange in the building, which will greatly multiply the effort of the operators and tax the capacity of the board to its limit. Frank C. Archibald is expected here the first of the week to assume the duties of attorney general as soon as the position is vacated by H. G. Barber. Mr. Harry Woodward and Mrs. Christine Murray are reported to be the extra clerks in the legislative draftsmen's office.

LOCAL TIME TABLE

Trains Over the Barre Branch of the Central Vermont Railroad Run to Connect with Two New Trains on the Main Line.

Beginning Monday morning, two additional passenger trains will be added to the service between White River Junction and St. Albans over the Central Vermont railroad. One of these trains going south will leave Montpelier at 8:30 a. m., arriving at White River Junction at 11:25 and at Boston at 5 p. m. The other will leave White River Junction at 1 p. m., arriving at Montpelier at 3:15. This train makes connections at White River Junction with the train leaving Boston at 6 a. m.

To meet this change of time on the main line, trains between Montpelier and Barre will run as follows: Morning train leaving Barre at 8:25, same as present time, will connect with both north and southbound trains at Montpelier, returning to Barre at 9:45 a. m. The train now leaving at 11:55 a. m. to connect with the main line express going south at Montpelier Junction will leave at 12:15. This train will arrive back in Barre at 1:30 p. m.

The train now leaving Barre for South Barre and Williamstown at 2:35 p. m. will leave at 2:20 p. m., returning in time to leave Barre at 4 p. m. and to connect at Montpelier Junction with the express going north. This train will arrive at Barre, in return, at 5:15 p. m. Another train will leave Barre at 5:30 p. m. to connect with the afternoon local train from the north and going south to White River Junction.

VOUCHERS WERE VERY ELUSIVE

Sometimes They Were Very Late in Making Their Appearance

RESPONDENT TOLD ON STAND TO-DAY

Defense Is Putting in Evidence in Malfeasance Case

The respondent was on the stand again to-day in Washington county court in the case of State vs. Bank Commissioner Frank C. Williams of Newport, who is charged with malfeasance in office in failing to report conditions in the auditor's office while H. F. Graham was auditor. Mr. Williams went on the stand immediately after the defense began its side of the case yesterday afternoon.

Considerable of the morning was occupied to-day by a dispute between counsel over the admission of "advancement and advances" in evidence. The court finally explained the term and allowed it to be used. So warm waxed the discussion between attorneys at one time that the defense took exceptions to the statement of the state, the defense claiming that the state was characterizing the testimony of the witness (Williams) as an argument to the jury. The court allowed the exceptions.

The respondent then resumed his story. He had started out yesterday afternoon by testifying as to his early life, his training and his various kinds of work until his appointment as bank commissioner. He then tried to tell of many savings banks there are in the state, to show how little time he had for the examination of the auditor's office. He brought a new term into the case, namely, "departmental vouchers," from other departments which, he said, frequently were all he found in the files, the same meaning receipts and not itemized vouchers. He testified that Mr. Graham sometimes was late in getting the vouchers into the files.

Mr. Williams testified to-day that it was a custom to allow advances to be made in large sums to some 20 or 30 departments, including the auditor, highway, secretary of state, board of health, prison, medical registration, agriculture, in fact, about every department, according to the witness. He explained that the sums varied and that only a personal receipt, which he termed as the departmental receipt, was given when the order for the money was given. Later the itemized vouchers would appear and be placed in the files.

He testified that he only used the files and the day book the first years of his examination, but in 1912 he commenced to use the ledger, because he found the itemized vouchers were not appearing. In the year 1912, all the itemized vouchers showed up, excepting one for \$102.75, by July 1, 1914, and that it finally appeared in the Graham account.

The respondent was still on the stand when adjournment was taken to-day till 10 a. m. Monday.

Court's Decision Sustaining Indictment.

Following the decision of the court, denying the petition of the respondent's attorneys for the quashing of six of the seven counts and granting the petition on the seventh count, the defense began the presentation of testimony yesterday afternoon. In announcing his decision, the judge said:

"We have given this matter as much consideration as the limited time we have been occupied in looking it over permitted, and shall continue to investigate it until the close of the case, to see if we discover if we have been wrong in anything that we are about to do. It is the unanimous opinion of the court that we ought to and we do hold the first and second count good and the motion with respect to it is denied.

"As to the third, fourth, fifth and sixth counts, as we understand the matter as presented to us, the respondent's counsel desire that the state should move, concisely, or rather more elaborately, indicate what orders they claim to have been fraudulent, what sums were drawn upon fraudulent orders. We think on this point that it is fair to state, and the court informs the respondent of the nature of the accusation made against him, to say that all unvouchered orders are found all sums obtained in such a way as that, that is, sums obtained without authority, and for which no vouchers are given would be fraudulent orders.

"In reference to the seventh count, we cannot see how it serves any useful purpose to retain that count as the evidence stands, because all that the evidence has any relation to embodied in that account is, if we are not mistaken, contained in the second count; therefore, we grant the motion in regard to the seventh count; and, in so far as that count is concerned, the respondent is discharged."

Plumley Outlined Defense's Case.

Frank Plumley, attorney for the respondent, opened the defense's case and was opposed by Attorney-General Barber when he told the jury what the respondent expects to prove. Having covered the history of the work of the bank commissioner with a view to showing that he had not neglected his work and that the work of the department did not give him time to do the auditing so as to make an expert accounting, Mr. Plumley stated that the vouchers have always been in their proper places until recently. He explained that the respondent had always been able to get the vouchers into the files before the time for making his report by urging Mr. Graham to secure them. He said the respondent expected to show that sometimes these vouchers were not returned as soon as at other times, so itemized vouchers matched receipts that were filed in the office, showing the orders had been drawn.

Attorney Plumley said that in 1914 all the itemized vouchers were on file excepting about \$2,000, and later all these came, excepting \$102.75, and finally a voucher appeared for them. In 1916 all the vouchers were in their proper place excepting enough to cover \$2,000, which sum was explained as clerk hire and other expenses, and before the report

(Continued on eighth page.)